

United States and the entire world. Through Yad Vashem's collection of testimonies from Holocaust survivors and families to the database of victims' names, they work to restore the dignity of those who perished and suffered at the hands of the Nazis. Through continuous documentation, Yad Vashem honors the lives and accomplishments of Holocaust survivors. Additionally, they develop educational programs to ensure that future generations never forget the lessons of the Holocaust.

This past year, thanks to the help of development efforts by the American and International Societies for Yad Vashem, the museum celebrated the grand opening of the new Holocaust History Museum at Yad Vashem. This phenomenal museum uses technology and symbolism to convey the story of European Jewry during the Holocaust.

This year's Annual Tribute Dinner will honor two outstanding couples who have impacted the lives of countless individuals across generations, Mindy and Ira Mitzner of Houston, Texas, and Marilyn and Barry Rubenstein of Brookville, New York. Through their tireless efforts, these couples have made remembering the Holocaust a sacred legacy. Their lives reflect the understanding that our society must heal and remember in order to prevent this catastrophe from repeating itself.

I applaud the American and International Societies for Yad Vashem for their vital work in honoring the memory and legacy of Holocaust victims and survivors.

LEGISLATION TO ABOLISH AVIATION BARRIERS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to have introduced the "Abolishing Aviation Barriers Act of 2005".

Currently there are two laws governing commercial aviation in the U.S. based on miles of flight restrictions. One governs the use of New York's LaGuardia Airport (LGA) and the other governs usage of Washington, D.C.'s Reagan National Airport (DCA). Restrictions exist at LaGuardia on the departure or arrival of non-stop flights to or from airports that are farther than 1,500 miles from LGA. Reagan National has a similar restriction for non-stop flights to or from airports 1,250 miles from DCA. These restrictions are commonly referred to as "perimeter rules."

The original purpose of these perimeter rules was to restrict LGA and DCA airports to business travelers flying to and from East Coast and Midwest cities and to promote traffic to other, newer airports by diverting long haul flights to Newark and Kennedy airports in the New York area and Dulles airport in the Washington, D.C. area. However, over the years, the federal government has made many changes and granted numerous exceptions to the perimeter rule at DCA because the air traveling public is eager for travel options.

Today, there are nonstop flights between Washington Reagan National and Denver, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Salt Lake City

and Seattle. LGA's rule was enacted by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey with an exception already contained therein—for flights between Denver and LGA. It was justified on the basis of ground congestion, i.e. automobiles. The old road network that gave rise to this excuse has long since been replaced with the help of federal money.

In fact, a 1999 study by the Transportation Research Board stated that perimeter rules "no longer serve their original purpose and have produced too many adverse side effects, including barriers to competition . . . The rules arbitrarily prevent some airlines from extending their networks to these airports; they discourage competition among the airports in the region and among the airlines that use these airports; and they are subject to chronic attempts by special interest groups to obtain exemptions."

That same year, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) stated that the "practical effect" of the perimeter rule "has been to limit entry" of other carriers. The GAO found that airfares at LaGuardia and Washington National are approximately 50 percent higher on average than fares at similar airports unconstrained by the perimeter rule.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced this legislation to promote more consumer choice and lower airfares for not only my own constituents, but for all of our air travelers.

GULF OPPORTUNITY ZONE PUBLIC FINANCE RELIEF ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following correspondence for the RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, November 17, 2005.

Hon. MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN OXLEY: I am writing concerning H.R. 4337, the "Gulf Opportunity Zone Public Finance Relief Act of 2005," which passed the House last night by unanimous consent.

Section 4 of the bill allows for the Federal guarantee of certain State bonds. I recognize the Committee on Financial Service's jurisdictional interest in Section 4 of the bill, and agree that by allowing the bill to be passed, the Committee on Financial Services does not relinquish any jurisdiction over H.R. 4337 or similar legislation. I would also support your request to be represented on a conference on H.R. 4337, if one should become necessary.

Finally, I will include this letter and your response in the Congressional Record under the portion for floor consideration of this measure.

Best regards,

BILL THOMAS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, November 17, 2005.

Hon. WILLIAM THOMAS,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMAS: I have received your letter concerning H.R. 4337, the "Gulf Opportunity Zone Public Finance Relief Act of 2005," which the House passed last night. The bill was also introduced yesterday and was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

I appreciate your recognition that the Committee on Financial Services has a jurisdictional interest in section 4 of the bill. This section allows for the Federal guarantee of certain State bonds. However, I understand that the need to move this bill expeditiously did not permit consideration of the bill by this Committee. It is my understanding this procedure will not prejudice the Committee on Financial Services with respect to its prerogatives on this or similar legislation. I appreciate your support for a request for conferees from this Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference.

I hope that this exchange of correspondence will appear in the Congressional Record. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Your truly,

MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Chairman.

IN HONOR OF HICKORY FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD'S DEDICATION TO SERVICE

HON. PATRICK T. MCHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of their new building dedication on November 20, 2005, I commend Hickory First Assembly of God for their committed service to communities locally and globally for almost 50 years. The first small group of faithful believers set the standard for selfless service that church members today still honor and follow.

Pastor Brian Campbell, the devoted pastoral staff, and a team of church members have worked together to plan a new space with additional seating in the sanctuary and more room for fellowship in the foyer, offices and nurseries. The expansions are part of Hickory First Assembly's efforts to continue the mission of Acts 1:8, which says "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Locally, the church reaches out to those in need by organizing teams to serve in the community. Nationally, church teams ministered in the Gulf Coast region after Hurricane Katrina; And internationally members actively participate in foreign missions through financial giving and traveling with groups to different countries in need.

As Christians, we are called to do great things for God. Living in a free nation, we have the privilege to practice our faith and make a difference in the lives of others. Truly a gateway church, Hickory First Assembly demonstrates a positive influence on the community by consistently communicating and living out biblical values.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOROPTIMIST WOMEN OF GARLAND

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Soroptimist Women of Garland. Soroptimist International was founded in 1921 as an international organization of business and young professionals who work to improve the lives of fellow women and girls. In 1954, the Soroptimist Club of Garland was chartered with Mrs. Lillie Alma Bradfield serving as the first president.

Today the Soroptimist Women of Garland are dedicated to providing service opportunities to women focusing their service endeavors on the local community. They support community projects ranging from renovating domestic violence shelters and providing mammograms for low-income women, to sponsoring self-esteem workshops for teenage girls. In addition, the Soroptimist Women of Garland raise funds to support charities such as Meals on Wheels and scholarships for students from the Garland Independent School District.

The Soroptimist Women of Garland are truly helping make our community and our country a better place to live. As the Congressional representative for this outstanding service organization, it is my pleasure to honor them as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

HONORING RETIRING ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATOR JEANNE Z. CHASE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the public service of Erie County Legislator Jeanne Z. Chase, who has served the residents of the Erie County Legislature's 12th Legislative district, which currently includes the towns of Boston, Brant, Eden, Evans, Hamburg, and North Collins, since her initial appointment in 1997, and who will leave the Legislature at the conclusion of her current term at the end of this year.

Jeanne Chase has been, above all else, someone dedicated to the sound and effective representation of her constituents, all of whom are also residents of the 27th Congressional district. It is her commitment to her constituents and to her community at large that has always impressed me about Jeanne Chase, and it is why I am delighted to honor her service to Erie County today.

Jeanne Chase is a lifelong resident of the Town of Evans. A graduate of Immaculata Academy, and SUNY Fredonia, Jeanne worked in the private sector for many years before seeking appointment to the 12th district seat upon the resignation of then-Legislator Bert Villarini in 1997. Jeanne defeated a well-

known and well-funded challenger in her first election in 1997 and won re-election to her seat in three succeeding elections.

Jeanne Chase is a longtime member of the Legislature's Public Safety committee, and has always placed the safety of her constituents as a top priority. As Chair of the Legislature's Public Safety committee from 2002 to 2003, Erie County moved forward with the construction of the state-of-the-art Public Safety Campus, which, when completed, will become the communications center and focal point for all police, fire and emergency services in our region. A longtime supporter of crime victims' rights, Jeanne has supported initiatives that increase protection for crime victims throughout New York State, and worked to establish a Domestic Violence Satellite Office in the Southtowns. Jeanne has seen many public accomplishments but cites as her greatest accomplishments her family. Husband Rob and daughter Chelsea are proud of Jeanne's service to her constituents, and we are as well.

Jeanne Chase has chosen not to leave public service. She is applying her experience in the field of real estate to her service as Town Assessor in the Town of Evans. I am proud and grateful, Mr. Speaker, to call to the House's attention the dedicated public service of Erie County Legislator Jeanne Chase, and I am certain that the whole House would join me in offering to Jeanne and to her entire family wishes of good luck and Godspeed in the months and years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to acknowledge the Church of the Epiphany which will launch a year-long celebration of events and activities celebrating 100 years as a parish in Orange, New Jersey on Sunday, November 20, 2005.

The Church of the Epiphany represents the faith and fortitude of New Jersey's African-American Episcopalians living in the Oranges. It began as a Sunday school for "colored" children in November 1905. Miss Ruth Marsh of Grace Church, located on Main Street in Orange, founded the Sunday school program and taught its 7 students. Through the efforts of Grace church's sexton, Mr. Thomas Johnson, the Sunday school developed into the Epiphany Mission with a small congregation led by the rectors of Grace Church. By 1908, Lay Reader George Marshall Plaskett, an African American student in the General Theological Seminary held the services under the direction of the Grace Church Rector. Father Plaskett went on to lead Epiphany as its rector for 50 years after his ordination and entrance into the priesthood. Under his leadership, Epiphany thrived as an active and integral part of the community providing spiritual education and guidance, and community service.

In 1909 Epiphany's congregation purchased a lot on the corner of South Center and Pierson Streets in Orange and the first service in

the new building was held on January 29, 1911. In 1916 the Epiphany Mission sought financial independence from Grace Episcopal Church and in 1930 Epiphany was admitted to the Diocese after an ecclesiastical separation from Grace Church. While located on Pierson Street, the church served as the congregation's spiritual home under the leadership of five rectors; The Rev. John H. Edwards, The Rev. Leonard Harris, The Rev. James E. Williams, The Rev. A. Warren Bridgeman. Since 1987, the Reverend Canon Gervais A.M. Clarke, Ph.D. has served as Epiphany's sixth Rector at its present location on Main Street, Orange.

On December 14, 1986, following the dissolution of Grace Church by the Diocese of Newark, Epiphany moved to the old Grace Church building at 105 Main Street. In an effort to honor and retain Epiphany's history and create a new home that would provide a place for worship, fellowship, education and outreach, the congregation incorporated a marble altar, pipe organ, and other furnishings from Epiphany's original properties into the renovated church. With pride, Epiphany celebrated its first service on Main Street in January 1987.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that the Church of the Epiphany has every right to be proud of the lasting contributions that it has made to the residents of Orange. Overcoming obstacles caused by segregation and demographic change, and addressing the needs of its neighbors are the legacy of Epiphany's forefathers and mothers. I rise today to honor Epiphany, who for 100 years have steadfastly and faithfully created a community of worship and service in Orange.

RECOGNITION OF THE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 18, 2005

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding group of young women from Southern Illinois. The Central High School volleyball team from Breese, Illinois, won the 2005 Class A State championship on November 12, after going through the State finals without losing a single game. The Cougars finished the season with 33 wins and 9 losses.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Head Coach Jim Cook and assistant coach Kelly Potthast on a truly outstanding season. Most of all, I want to recognize the members of the 2005 State champion Breese Central Cougars volleyball team: Britni Holtmann, Melanie Gartside, Bethany Becker, Sarah Barth, Megan Winkler, Cassy Becker, Lindsay Holtmann, Amanda Backes, Lauren Endres, Kelsi Scheer, Kelsey Straeter, Lauren Budde, Cassandra Deiters, Brittany Schrage, Kassi Buehne.

These young women did an exceptional job of representing themselves, their school and their community, and I wish them best of luck in all of their future endeavors.